

SOME INVENTORIES OF THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, BRISTOL.

BY

E. G. CUTHBERT F. ATCHLEY.

In July, 1494, Richard Vaghan,¹ the junior proctor or churchwarden of St. Stephen's Parish Church, Bristol, presented to the said church a book which he had made, "writing and all," containing the inventories of the goods of the church and the chauntries founded therein, at that date. By the kindness of Mr. J. Littleton, senior warden of the church, I have been able to make a transcript of the contents of this interesting little volume.

This book has a thin vellum cover, with a flap-over; and on the back, very rubbed, can be made out the following title:—

The boke of the Inuentorye
of the Churche of seynt
Stevyne of Bristowe and
Pertaynyng to the Chauntries
there-of.

The volume is made up of sixty-six leaves or folios, divided into three irregular quires. Each leaf is 212 mm. across, and 306 mm. high. The watermark is very elaborate. A bishop's crosier, having the crook (which is ornamented with crockets, and springs from a hexagonal head) turned to the right (*sinister*), impales a pear-shaped device of seventy-seven circles, each 5 mm. in diameter, arranged 7, 8, 9, 8, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, and 1. This device is surmounted by a bracket terminating in an ornamental tip which turns round the shaft of the crosier. On the left (*dexter*) of the device, opposite the groups of 9, 8, and 9 circles, is the letter S, about 9 mm. by 18 mm.; on the opposite side (*sinister*), the letter H. The whole device is about 110 mm. high, and 75 mm. across.

The contents of the book are inventories, and a few memoranda of debts and monies, and names of persons present at the meeting of the account. The arrangement was originally chronological; but in writing out the lists of the goods of the church and of the chauntries Richard Vaghan left many blank sheets, which have been more or less filled up by later comers. The result is that the arrangement of the contents as finally

¹ Bailiff of Bristol in 1491 (T. P. Wadley, *Notes or Abstracts of the Wills contained in . . . the Great Orphan Book*, Bristol, 1886, p. 166).

determined is somewhat irregular: and in giving the various inventories in the course of this paper I have thought fit to re-arrange their order for greater convenience.

The list of vestments, linen, banners, etc., of 1494 begins on fo. 2 and is continued to the end of fo. 16 *verso*. On fo. 23 begins the list of jewels, which ends on fo. 24 *verso*. The vestments were numerous and costly. Besides two copes not belonging to suits, there were ten suits, and nine single vestments: and a cloth of gold cope and a red suit of cloth of tissue given soon after the inventory was made. Most of the suits contain a cope as well as a chasuble and two tunicles, with albs, stoles and fanons. The colours are well represented: two white suits, two red, two blue, two of cloth of gold imperial, one black, and one green. And of the single vestments there are two red, two white, two blue, and one each of green and black: a vestment of bustian is also included. Of the two blue vestments, one was devoted to the altar of Our Lady. The two single copes are green and white respectively.

It may be noted that most of the suits are of cloth of gold of different colours: one is of damask and the other of velvet on velvet. The two single copes are of the same costly fabric.

In 1473 John Shipward made his will, desiring to be buried at St. Stephen's Church by the high altar. He and his son built the tower of the church: and both served as Mayor of Bristol, in 1445 and 1477 respectively. According to the will of the former, he left six pair of vestments to the church of St. Stephen, under the condition that his chauntry-priests should be able to use them at the high altar at all necessary times. The vestments are described as follows¹; it will be noticed, however, that only five are enumerated:—

Item lego ecclesie sancti Stephani Bristollie predicte duos libros vocatos Missales cum vno calice de Argento et deaurato ponderis [*blank*] ac eciam sex paria vestimentorum, videlicet:

vnum par vestimentorum de velwett super velwet Brow-deryd cum vna Cruce de Redde velwett.

Item aliud par vestimentorum de nigro Damaske Browderid cum vna Cruce de Cloth of gold.

Item duo paria vestimentorum de white Bawdekyn cum vna Cruce de Redde Bawdykyn.

Item aliud par vestimentorum de grene Borde Alisonder cum vna Cruce de Redde and blew Bawdykyn super dorsum eiusdem.

None of these vestments, bequeathed in 1473, appear in the inventory of 1494. Yet one would hardly think that they could be worn out in twenty years. Nor do they appear amongst the vestments belonging to Shipward's chauntry. Of altar cloths or fronts the church had four sets: a blue, a red, a white, and a green pair, evidently upper and nether fronts. There was "a little narrow frontel, with a fringe," to hang over the front of the altar to conceal the attachment of the lower front: and a little later Master John Vaghan gave a frontel of black velvet, adorned with flowers of gold. These frontels were sewn on to one of the linen cloths when in use. The red baudkin fronts have their own frontel, and also a pair of costers or riddels to match in red sarcenet. The white set also had riddels to match, and a frontel of white silk; besides which there was also a frontel of

¹ *Great Orphan Book of Wills*, fol. ccvj, preserved at the Council House, Bristol.

white damask, powdered with golden eagles; which could be used with it. The green and the blue sets have no frontels of their own.

It is difficult to determine for certain what the "two coverlets of tapestry work for the high altar on high days" were: they may have been fronts, but the term in that sense is somewhat unusual.

They had eleven linen cloths for the high altar, and one coarse one to which two others were added later apparently. For the Communion of the people there were five huseling towels of twill; two plain towels of Irish cloth, and a fine plain linen towel ornamented with red ribbon at the sides, and five short towels of twill, probably for the three lavatories (at the vesting, at the Offertory, and after the Communion). The towel of white silk was probably a sudary to use in carrying the oils to the font at Eastertide. There was also a fine sheet for the Easter sepulchre.

There are two banners for the cross, sometimes called cross cloths. At Sarum these were not used, but elsewhere they were usual. The two sudaries of silk perhaps served for carrying the oils at Eastertide: or they may have been used at the Illation of the Vessels.

There are six corporas cases, two white, two blue, one green, and one red: and ten corporas cloths. The kerchief of white Cyprus cloth with tassels of red silk, and that of red Cyprus cloth with knobs of silver-gilt, were pix veils. How the six pillows for the Crosses were used I am unable to say. On Good Friday a crucifix was lain on a pillow before the altar for the ceremony of the Veneration; but only one was needed for this.

The additions include two font-cloths, a cloth for the desk (perhaps the gospel lectern), a hanging for the shrine used on Palmson and Corpus Christi days to convey the Eucharist in, six banners (including two given by Mr. Brown and William Surgeon), and two streamers.

The plate weighed 994 ounces. The list begins with a foot, for a cross, with an image of Our Lady that the Sacrament is borne in on Corpus Christi day, with a tabernacle, and angels, of silver, enamelled and gilt; for either side was an image of Mary and John. The whole weighed 166 ounces; and were afterwards sold for £40. The cross belonging to it weighed 61 ounces: and the weight of the whole is given as 227 ounces. The Host was apparently borne as it were in Our Lady's womb: a realistic feature which may be compared with the image of Our Lady at Durham in which they had in the same position an image of the Holy Trinity. That at St. Stephen's was not open to the theological objections which may reasonably be brought against the Durham image.

The next item is a silver-gilt triptych, in which was a cross enshrining a relic of the true Cross. It was adorned with enamels and precious stones, and ornamented with floriate embellishments, which in course of time got damaged and lost.

There were two pixes of silver-gilt; a silver oil-vat; a third pix, rather smaller than the other two; two spice dishes, probably for use at the parish banquet on the day of the account; two silver censers; two cruets; a silver ship for incense; two other cruets, added later; two pair of candlesticks, the one all gilt weighing 36 ounces, and the other parcel-gilt weighing but 15 ounces. Probably the heavier pair were for festal, and the lighter for ordinary use.

In 1494 they had four chalices: one of them is said to belong Richard White's

chauntry. The three boxes, of ivory, beryl, and silver respectively, were probably little pixes to go inside the larger cup which hung over the high altar. Eight more chalices figure in the additions to the list of 1494, and then comes a list of chalices belonging to chauntry priests. Each item ends *g^t* (*continet*), but in no case does the weight appear. Then in a hand apparently later than 1502 come three more chalices. Four chalices are noted to have been delivered out of the treasure house; one for daily use at the high altar. The list concludes with a few odds and ends; a box, broken pieces of silver, a chain with relics of St. Margaret, a brooch and a cross.

The text of the inventory is as follows:—

fo. 2.

[Anno 1494, in a 17th century hand.]

Here-aftyr ffolowthe the Inventre off the goodes that is longynge Vn-to the Churche off Seynt Stevyns off Bristowe y-made by John Balle and Richard vaghan Beynge proctoures and the fforseid Richard vaghan made thus Boke Writtynge and alle And gave thus Boke Vn-to þe fforseid Churche off Seynt Stevyns yn þe yere off owre lord god Mⁱ iiiij^c lxxxiiiij and on þe monthe off Jeuly.

In <i>primis</i> a Coppe off grenne cloþe off Tyshio	...	...	...
Jtem more a cope off whitte cloþe off gold off damaske Mastyr				ij Coppes
Sheppardis ¹ yefte	...	...	...
Jtem more ij Copp3 off whitte damaske Wythe Eyggyls off gold.	Jtem			ij Copp3 a chesepille and tenakils
more a Chesepille <i>with</i> ij tenakils accordyng to the Sewte awlbis and Stollys accordyng to þe same		...	...
Jtem more a Coppe a Chesepille Withe ij tenakils off grenne fflved				a Coppe a Chesepille ij tenakils
aponn fflved awlbis and stollys Harry maye-is yefte		...	...
Jtem more a-coppe off blewe clothe off gold Emparyalle <i>with</i> Chesepille and ij tenakils to the Same Sewte awlbe and Stollys accordyng to the same		...	...	A Coppe a Chesepille ij tenakils
Jtem more a Coppe off Rede clothe off Gold off Bawdkynne A Chesepille <i>with</i> ij tenakyls to the Same Sewte <i>with</i> þe awlbys And the Stollys		...	...	A Coppe a Chesepille ij tenakyls
Jtem more a Coppe off ffynne Red cloþe off gold off Red Bawdkynne a Chesepille & ij tenakyls <i>with</i> awlbis and Stollys Alle thynges accordyng...		...	...	A Coppe a Chesepille ij tenakyls
Jtem more a Coppe a Chesepille withe ij tenakils off whitt clothe off gold off Bawdkynne awlbis and Stollys accordyng ²		...	...	A Cope a Chesepille ij tenakyls
Jtem more a Chesepille withe awlbis and Stollys off whitt damaske wythe Eyggyls off gold		...	...	A Chesepille
Jtem more a Sengkle payre off vestmens off grenne bawdkyn ³		...	...	A Seyngkle peyre off vestmens
Jtem more a Sengkle peyre off vestmentes off Red Bawdkyn		...	...	A Sengkle peyre off bawdkyns
⁴ Jtem more A Seyngkle peyre off vestmentes off Blewe damaske		...	...	A Seyngkle peyre off vestmentes

¹ Died in 1473 (Wadley, 158 sq.)

³ notandum in another hand,

² In another hand and black ink lackethe a stole.

⁴ fo. 2 verso.

Jtem more A peyre off vestmentes off Blake vostelle ... A Seyngkle peyre
off vestmentes

Jtem more A Seyngkle peyre off vestmentes of Red vosted ... A Seyngkle peyre
off vestmentes

Jtem more a Seyngkle peyre off vestmentes off blewe ffellved *pat* }
John Bailly Gaue they as to be occupyd at owre lady awtter yn Seynt } j peyre off vest-
Steuyns-is church ... } menttes

Jtem more A Sengkle peyre off whitt Bawdkyne ... A Seyngkle peyre
off whitt Bawdkyne

Jtem more a Chessepille and ij tenakils off blake clope off gold off } A Chessepille
bawdkyne *with* awlbis and stollys accordyng to *pe* same ... } tenakils

Jtem more iij Brokyne Copp3 & j Chessepille & ij tenakyls off blewe { iij Copp3 a
Bawdkyne & ij awlbis withe stollys ... { Chessepille ij
tenakils

[*in black ink, and another hand.*] Here-of vas occupyd ij coppes for to make schyldery-ys
ij tenaculs and to mend *pe* Rest

Jtem A Seyngkle peyre off vestmentes off boystyan withe awlbe and } A Seyngkle peyre
Stollys accordyng to the Same ... } off vestmentes

Jtem more A chessepille with ij tenakils off clothe off gold Emperyalle } A chessepille ij
with a coppe to *pe* Same *with*-owte awlbis ... } tenakils

Jtem more a Chessepille ij tenakyls off clothe off gold Emperyalle } A chessepille
with-owt awlbis and Stollys ... } tenakils

Jtem more ij tenakils off Bawdkyne *with* Awbys ffor children ... ij tenakils

Jtem more a littelle narowe ffrontelle withe a ffreyng ... A ffrontelle

[*In a different hand, but the same coloured (brown) ink.*]

Jtem¹ in the yere that John poplay² and hewe coston³ were proctors John }
poplay let make at the churche-ys cost. vj. albys *with* ther amys and } vj albys apparelyd
aparylmentes to perteyne to the vestmentes to-fore wryt *pat* were not } *with* ther amys.
complyt ...

fo. 3.

[*In another hand, and black ink.*]

Jtem a Cope of fyne gold *with* Claspys of Syluer of the gyff of Maister Richerd. vaghanⁿ
with his Merchaunt Syngne *with* a cowrse sheit for it.

Jtem there is ij Copys of Red Cloth of tyssew of the wich Maister John Vaghanⁿ⁴ gaff oonn
of them and the parysh the other *with* Chesable ij tunacles *with* apparrell Complett

Jtem a ffrontell of Blacke velwett *with* fflowres of gold of the gyff of Maister Johnⁿ vaghanⁿ

[*The rest of the page blank.*]

Fo. 3 verso to 15 verso inclusive blank.]

¹ anno lxxxxvj.

² Poplay = filius populi, illegitimate.

³ Hugh Colston.

⁴ John Vaughan was proctor in 1473 (Wadley, 160): perhaps the executor of J. Esterfield's will in 1504 (Wadley, 178).

fo. 16.

[In the original hand of 1494.]

Jhesu.

Here-After folowthe the Awttre clothis that parteynithe to the Hey awtter off the Churche off Seynt Stevyns off Bristowe.

Jtem more ij Blewe awtter clopes off blewe arees ... ij awtyre clopes.

Jtem more ij awter clopes off Red Bawdkynne wythe a ffrontelle with ij
corttens off Red Sarsenette ... ij awtter clopes
j ffrontelle ij
corttens

Jtem more ij whitt awttre clopes Steynd wythe ij corttens withe a
ffrontelle off whit Sylke ... ij awtter clopes
ij corttens a
ffrontelle

Jtem more A whitte ffrontelle off Whitte damaske y-powdyrd wythe
Eyggyls off gold ... A ffrontelle

Jtem more ij pallis off Sylke off grenne Bawdkynne onn y-lynyd withe
blewe bockramm and þe t-øper vnlynd ... ij pallys

Jtem more ij Coverlyttes off Tapistre werke ffore þe hey awtter on hey
holy days ... ij Coverlèttes

Jtem more ffor the hey Awtter xj awtter clopes off Tewly/ Jtem more [ij]
in a different hand and ink, written over a] cowrs awtter clope [*s*
added in different hand and ink. The marginal note is corrected by
the same hand] ... xj awter clopes
ij cowrs awtter
clopes

Jtem more v hoslynge Tewels off Tewly/ Jtme more ij playne Tewels off
eyrische clope/ Jtem more a-fynne playne Tewelke y-Garnysd be þe
Sides with a reband off Red Sylke/ Jtem more A Tewelke off whitt
Silke/ Jtem more v Shortte Tewels off Tewelly/ Jtem more a ffyne
Shette ffor the Sepillcowre y-garnysd with grenne Sylke ... xiiij Tewelkis and
a-shett

[Jtem a [ble struck out] towell wrought with blew threyd pyctured with ij men in a different
hand and black ink.]

Jtem more a-banere off blewe Sylke ffor þe Cros þat mastyr wescotte¹ Gave/ Jtem more a baner ffor the Cros off Red Sylke withe ij borres
hedes ynn ... ij baneres off Sylke
ffor the Cros

Jtem more ij Sowderes off Sylke ... ij Sowderes

Jtem more ij Corporas Cas off whitt damaske/ Jtem ij off blewe damaske/
Jtem more j off grenne bawdkynn and a-nøper off Red Bawdkyne
Summa vj Cas ... x corporas clopes
vj Cas

Jtem more x Corporros clopes ...

fo. 16 verso.

Jtem more a kercheffe off whitt Sypyrs withe Tassels off Red Sylke/ Jtem more a kercheffe off Red Sybers withe Cnappz of Sylvyr y-gyld
that mastres Jenett vaghan gaue ... ij kercheffes

Jtem more [ij corrected, as is the margin also, to] vj pelows ffore the Crossys ... vj pelows

Jtem more ij Staffes ffor the Cros onn y-peyntyd Red withe blossomes off gold
y-powdyrd aponn hym/ & the t-øper Staffe y-amyd with pecocke-is
ffedyres [with a staff of Copper/ in another hand and black ink] ... ij Cros Staffes

¹ He married Agnes, daughter of John Shipward (Wadley, 159).

[*In the same hand as this last addition.*]

- Jtem a clothe for the fownt of lynnonn Cloth garnessed with blew
 Jtem a-nother Cloth paynted or steyned with iij ymages
 Jtem a Cloth of nedyll warke for the deske
 Jtem a Garnysh for the shryne of blacke velwett powdred with flowres of Gold of the gyff of
 Master Johnn vaghann
 Jtem ij Baners of sersenett oon of grene with ann Jmage of saynt Stewyn And ann other of
 blew of the trinite
 Jtem ij Stremers of sylke both of saynt George made by the parish
 Jtem ij Banne[r]s of the Passyonn made by Master Brownn & willyam Cyrjn
 Jtem ij Banners oonn of Stewynn & a-nother of saynt poll steyned

[*In a different and later hand.*]

- Jtem j silkyn towell for the sepulcure and ij pewlus of silk of the gyft of anassy hory

[*Blank from fo. 17 to fo. 22 verso inclusive.*]

fo. 23.

[*In the original hand of 1494.*]

Here-aftyr folowthe the wy3tte off the Jewellys off the Church off Seynt Stevyns off Bristowe.

- | | | | |
|-----|--|-------------------------|---|
| + { | Jn-primis A frotte off a-cros Withe an-emyage off owre lady that the Sacra-
mentte is boryne ynn onn Corpus-day <i>christi</i> wythe a Tabarnakle angels
off Sylvyre y-ameld and alle gyld weyng j ^c l. honces. | j ^c l honces | } |
| + { | Jtem more mary and Johnn weythe xvj honces Sylvyre and gyld xvj honces | xvj honces | |
- Jtem a-cros Sylvyre y-gyld and anambled weythe [lxj *struck out by a later*
hand] honces
- [lxj *struck out*]
honces
[lxv honces in a
later hand.]

Summa ij^c xxvij honces.

- Jtem more a Tripleth Wythe a-Cros where-yn is a pece off the holy Cros
 Sylvyre y-ameld and gyld withe a-bord off tree tre [*sic*] and alle
 weyng j^c lxxvij honces
- j^c lxxvij honces

[*In black ink and a later hand.*]

Which lakketh many Amelles & stonys & the vj day of march anno
 domini 1525 ther were xvij Amelles . iij floures & one stone all fast

[*In the original hand and ink.*]

- Jtem more A-coppe Sylvyre y-gyld withe many Cowrs stones withe a Cros
 aponn withe mary and Johnn alle weyng xlvj honces and halffe
- Jtem more a-coppe Sylvere & alle gyld with a-cros [that the Sacrament
 is yn *written over in the same hand and ink as the marginal note to*
the first two items] weyng xxij honces iij quarters [with a keyre off
 Sylke with Coppels off Sylvyre gyld off pe yefte off master
 orkuwn (?) *in another hand*].
- Jtem a oyle ffatte Sylvere y-gyld weythe xxxvij honces xxxvij honces.
- [lakkyng a toppe of one of the pynaclys *written over in another hand and black ink*]

¹ Marginal note in black ink and a later hand: Memorandum thes parcelles be sold for xl li.

Jtem a paxe Sylvyre y-gyld weythe xx hownces xx honces
 Jtem a-spyce dyshe y-gyld weynge xj hownces xj honces
 Jtem ij Senseres off Sylvyre nott y-gyld weyng lxxv honces
 [Jtem another Spice dische weyng *in a different hand and pale ink*: xj ownces dimidium *in a third hand and black ink*.]
 [Jtem ij other cruettes weyng *in the same hand as the previous item*: x ownces iij quarters *in the same hand as the previous weight*.]
 Jtem A Shyppe off Sylvyre parcelle gyld *with* a-spone weyng xiiij honces iij quarters
 Jtem ij Crewettes parcelle gyld weynge xvij honces j quarter xvij [corrected to xvj by a later hand] honces j quarter.
 Jtem ij Candylstykkys off Sylvere alle gyld weyng xxxvj honces
 Jtem ij Candylstykkys off Sylvere parcelle gyld weyng xv honces
 Jtem a-chalis alle gyld weyng xxxij honces 3e xxxij honces 3e
 Jtem more a-chalis alle gyld weyng xxxviiij honces 3e xxxviiij honces 3e
 [in the left hand margin is written in a later hand: this myddil chalice hath written yn þe fote Jhesus nasarene rex Judeorum]
 Jtem more a Chalys alle gyld weyng xx honces xx honces [5 added by a later hand]
 [Underneath this item is written in the same hand as the marginal note to the middle item: this chalice is written yn euery quarter off the fote with this worde Jhesus and a pegge off tre thrist yn þe botom]

fo. 23 verso.

[In the original 1494 hand.]

¹Jtem a-chalis off Sylvere and alle gyld weyng... .. xiiij [corrected by a later hand to xiiij] honces 3e
 [written Jn þe fote xiiij vneces dimidium And þis lettre B in black ink, the same as in the marginal correction, and the last note on fo. 23.]
 Jtem ij (*sic*) box off yevery withe Gemos off Sylvyre
 Jtem a box off bereelle y-garnysd *with* Syluere y-gyld weythe iiij honces
 Jtem more a whit boxe off Sylvyre parcelle gyld withe many Cowrs Stonys } ij honces &
 weyng ij honces & quarter } quarter

[In a later hand.]

²Anno domini M^l V^c ij that John Collyns & Katryn is wyff gave to this }
 churche a challis off Sylvyre gyld weyng xxiiij honces 3e a-quarter onn } xxiiij honces e
 there Sowlis Jhesu haue mercy Amen } quarter

[In the same hand and ink as the marginal note just above and the note on White's chalice.]

A chalice guylte off the gyfte off Margarete holbroke & Christiane fovke
 wayeng xxxiiij vneces.
 wryten vpon þe fote orate pro animabus Margarete holbroke &
 Christine fouke.

¹ Marginal note: Richard whitt-is chauntre.² Marginal note: written aboute þis chalice John collyns & kateryn his wyfe.

[*In the same hand and ink as the item of 1502.*]

¹Anno domini M^l v^c. iij. that Elyne Benet gawue to þis Church a-challys
off Sylvyre gylte [he *struck out*] wayng xxx honces herre hosbond & she to be prayed ffore onn there Sowlis Jhesu haue mercy Amen. } xxx^{ti} Honces
Anno domini M^l v^c iiij that there is a-challis [gywyne *struck out*] gevyn
to the Church Sylvyre & gylde weyng xj honces 3e that no mann knowe how gave þe Seyd Challis [with þis lettre D made Jn the botom
in the same hand and ink as the marginal notes and the other additions.] } xj honces 3 [e
struck out.]

[*In the same hand as the 1502 item.*]

Anno domini M^l v^c [blank] that there as gevyne to the Church a-chalis
off Sylvyre gylde wayng xx honces 3e as yett Cann no man Tell howe gave hit ... } xx^{ti} honces 3e
& nowe knowin that Elyzab^{3e} Bayly gave to the churge to that entent þat
the seyde Chalis shuld be oc occupyd at prenassable ffestes onn ower lady Awttre to þis entent that herre hosbond & she shuld be prayed
ffore onn there Sowllis Jhesu haue mercye Amen ... }
[this chalice is writen yn the fote orate pro animabus Iohannis bayly
& Elysabeth vxoris eius in the same hand as the similar notes above.]

fo. 24.

[*In the 1502 hand.*]

Jtem more a Chalis longyng to the hey Awttre off Sylvyre [parcelle *struck out*]
gylde weyng xxij honces 3e [writen Jn the fote off this chalice
pro anima hugonis hunte in the same hand as the similar notes
on the preceding page] ... } xx^{ti} honces 3e

[*In the hand of the 1502 item.*]

Item more a-chalis off Sylvyre gylde that weythe xiiij honces & A-quarte the
Chalis was y-had off Syre John Jennyns the whiche Chalis was lend to hyme
ffrome the hey Awttre [this chalice ys broken yn the fote ouerthuarte
the crucifixe in the hand of the similar notes preceding.] } xiiij honces [3
added in different ink.]

[*In the same or a very similar hand (1502)*]

Item more a-chalis off Sylvyre & Gylde weyng xiiij honces longyng to the
hey Awttre the p— whiche Chalis is y-lend to Syr Robert Venans
To Master Shepward-is Chapleyne [with toes Jn the fote and yn euery
toe ij holes in the hand of the similar notes preceding.] ... } xiiij honces [3 added
in different ink.]

[*In another hand and darker ink.*]

Jtem sir John Jenyns Jchaues gylt 9^t [blank]
Jtem sir John Boten J chaues parcell gylt 9^t [blank]
Jtem sir breun J chaues gylt 9^t [blank]
Jtem sir John Seber [?] Master vaughans pryst J chaues gylt 9^t [blank]
Jtem sir humfrey Master lynkkoln pryst J chaues gylt 9^t [blank]
Jtem Master Sheppardes prest J chaues gylt

¹ writen abowte þis chalyis Nycholas benet & ellyn his wyfe in the same hand as previous marginal note.

Jtem A Spyse [gylt *struck out*] plate gylt 9^t [blank]
 Jtem ij old cruettes new made Parcell-gylt 9^t x vnces
 Jtem iiij gretes & iij small [flowres *written over*] taken of þe Crosse 9^t [blank]
 Jtem Certen Peces of Syluer left Jn A-box 9^t [blank]

[In a hand very similar to the additions to the 1502 hand entries.]

Jtem A chalice off the olde makyng with a brode cuppe & lyke fote with þis
 lettre A. yn the Inside of the fote made with the poynt off A knyfe
 & vpon [the *written over*] outsyde off the fote A crosse made wayeng... xxij vnces
 Jtem a chalice al-gylt wayeng with þis letter E yn the botom ... xiiij vnces 3e
 Jtem a chalice parcel guylte wayeng ... xiiij vnces

fo. 24 verso.

iiij off these chalices *delivered* (?) oute off the tresorye howse.
 one parcel guylt ... xiiij vnces
 A-noþer al-guylt ... xiiij vnces *dimidium*
 with þis lettre B. yn the botom
 A-noþer al-guylte wayeng ... xj vnces 3.
 with þis letter D yn þe botom
 Jtem an oþer algate for þe hiȝe aluter wayeng... xiiij vnces & di-
 with þis letter C. yn the botom *midium*

[In a different hand.]

Jtem vij peces siluer & gylte longyng to þe crosse [carent iij peces in another hand]
 Jtem A lytyll boxe off Syluer with his cover
 Jtem ij cristall stones bounde with siluer
 Jtem viij pecis off Siluer besyde [carent in another hand]

[In a different hand.]

Jtem a litull chayn of siluer with a pice of siluer in the whiche is x pyces of
 the checke of saynt marget
 Jtem a Grete broch of coper and gyld enameld
 Jtem a crosse of siluer and gild with iiij stonyes ... vj vnces

[In the same hand as fo. 26.]

Jtem there ys remanyng vnto the Curche of Chalyces [blank]

fo. 25.

[At the foot is written]

ix^e lxxxxiiij ownces

fo. 25 verso.

[Blank]

The next two pages, fo. 26, and fo. 26 verso are written in a fine bold hand, which appears about the same year in the churchwardens' accounts of All Saints, and of St. Nicholas. They are taken up with a list of the chalices belonging to St. Stephen's church on 17th February 1530³¹. The chalices number fourteen. In no case is the weight given, except that one chalice had written on it 13 oz.; but marks or inscriptions upon them are carefully noted, so that they could be identified. Most of them have a rood or a crucifix on them: some

are adorned with enamel, and one has a jade on the foot. The last two on the list are said to be "with Master Goodwyn¹ in cage"; pawned.

fo. 26. Here ffolowyth in the Curche of Saynt Stephyns of Chalyces *pertaynyng* nowe in the forseyd church in the yere of our lorde god M^l v^c xxx the xvij Daye of ffebruary as here folowyth

Jtem A Chales All Gylte *with* A rode gylte in the fote *with* iiij fflovers on euery syde *with* the paten gylte

Jtem A-nother Chales gylte *with* A Rode in the fote gyld *with* Mare & John vppon Amyled wrytyn A-Bowte the fote *Jhesus nazarenus rex Judeorum*

Jtem Another Chales Gylte *with* A Rode whitt Mare & John whit euery syde vppon Newe Amell & wrytyn a-bowte the C the boll orate *pro animabus Johanneſt Colyns Et Katerine vxoris eius*

Jtem Another Chales gylte *with* A Crewsyfyn vppon Ameled *with* crystus *Jhesus* wrytyn Aronde A-bowte the fote in euery square

Jtem A Chales gylt *with* mare & John *without* Ameled wrytyn A-bowte the v quarters *Jhesus* in euery of the seyde quarters

Jtem A Chales gylte *with* the patent whiche ys wrytyn vndyr fote xiiij vnccs

Jtem A Chales *with* A-patent gylte *with* A pyn of yron throwe the chaffe

Jtem² A Chales gylte *with* A paten *with* A rode in the fote wrytyn Jn the v quarters *Jhesus Crystus* & [in *struck out*] vndyr the fote ij Crossis made *with* A knyffe

Jtem Another Chales gylte *with* A patent *with* A jade in the fate Brokyn

Jtem A-nother Chales gylte *with* the patent *with* A Rode in the fote & vndyr the Botum wrytyn xiiij vnccs & in on of the square *with* A Capten be made in the seyde square

Jtem A-nother Chales gylte *with* A patent *with* A rode in the fote & A Rose of euery syde

Jtem A Chales passell gylte *with* A rode in the fote & the fote Brokyn ther-As the Rode stonde

Jtem ij Chales *with* Master Goodwyn in Cayge

[*The rest blank to fo. 32 inclusive.*]

The next inventories are those made on the 14th and 15th days of April, 1550. Apparently these were being got ready for the vestry meeting on the following day: on fo. 1 of the MS. is a list of twenty-three names, headed by "Thomas hanson, parson," who were present "at the Accompt of Saynt Stephens Church kept the 16 of Aprell 1550."

Four chalices remained in the church: these, with a spice-dish, two swords, an oil-vat and two silver candlesticks were delivered into the custody of various members of the vestry "to keep to the use of the church." It is not clear whether "the use of the church" meant for use in the church service, or that they were to be kept to be sold for the use of the church.

The vestments included a cope of cloth of gold and tissue, a cope of green cloth of gold. Perhaps they may be identified with the white cope of cloth of gold of damask given by Shipward, and the cope of green cloth of tissue, of the inventory of 1494.

There were four suits remaining in 1550. The first contained a chasuble, dalmatic, and tunicle, and two copes, with the apparels, stoles and fanons: but the omission to mention the material of which it was made prevents any attempt to recognise it in the earlier inventory. The second contained a cope, chasuble, dalmatic, and tunicle, apparels, and fanons; and was all of green velvet. Perhaps it was that given by Harry Maye, described in 1494 as made of

¹ Wylliam Goodwyn was a member of the vestry in 1524 (*Proceedings of the Clifton Antiquarian Club*, 1888; vol. i, pp. 198 sq.)

² Fo. 26 verso.

green velvet on velvet. The third suit was of white damask, embroidered with eagles of gold, and comprised two copes, a chasuble, dalmatic, and tunicle, with apparels, fanons and a stole, together with an old white cope powdered with gold. Probably it was the same as the suit of white damask with eagles of gold in the list of 1494. The fourth suit had no cope, but only chasuble, dalmatic, and tunicle, with the apparels for the albs and one stole. It is described as of the Passion and Resurrection, branched with gold. It seems to have been brought or given since 1494, as it does not appear in the list made that year.

There are twelve single vestments, and fourteen albs besides. Two are blue-purple, one of white fustian, four of changeable or shot silk, one of green changeable (silk?), one of checky canvas, one of Dornick silk (*i.e.*, silk from Dornick or Tournai), one of black worsted, and another of red worsted. One of the first may be the same as the single vestment of blue damask in the additions to the 1494 list: colours deteriorate with age and use: and the last two may be the single vestments of "Blak vostelle" and "Red vosted" respectively of the same list. The rest do not appear in the older inventory.

Next follows a list of odd things which had been sold, with the prices obtained against them. To these succeed an inventory of "such napery as was in the church" on 15 April, 1550. This comprises ten "towels" and seven "altar cloths," with a supplementary list of three more altar cloths and a pulpit-cloth. These "towels" vary in length from three to nine yards, and in breadth from a-half to one yard. They are evidently not what we call towels at the present day. The longer ones were probably huselling-cloths, and the rest used as the uppermost cloth of the three on the altars. Their material varies¹: holland, calico, diapered linen, and lockram. Lockram was a cheap sort of cloth made at Locronane in Brittany.

There is also enumerated six surplices; four for men, and two for boys.

All the plate, vestments, and linen were handed over to the two churchwardens, John Flemyng and Robert Sternald: and the list is signed by Thomas Honson or Hanson, the rector of St. Stephen's, William Spratt, William Ballard, and William Goodwyn, members of the vestry.

fo. 52.

the 14 of Aprell 1550

this day at the accompt of Saynt Stephyns Church Appeared such plate as was remaynyth in the church remaynyng in such ordre as hereafter foloweth/

one chalyce gilte *with* a paten delivered to the parson/ weyng/ xiiij vneces dimidium

a chalice *with* a paten wayng/ 19 vneces delivered to [Nich *struck out*] thomas deacon now proctor [*which* remayneth successevely with the proctours *in another hand*]

a chalice *with* a paten weyng/ xxxviij vneces delivered to Master Spratt

a chalice *with* a paten weyng 32 vneces delivered to Master balard²

A spyce dishe weyng [*blank*] delivered to Master Spratt

ij swerdes *with* scaberdes remaynyng *with* Master Spratt

a fate for oyle remaynyng [Tho *struck out*] *with* Thomas deacon Proctor

[ij] candelstyckes of silver parcell gilt in the hands of Nicholes Kollor *in the same hand as the additional note to the second chalice above*

all which parcelles be delivered vnto the aforesaid persons [the day aforesaid *written over in the same hand*] to kepe to the vse of the Church/

¹ For the various kinds of linen cloth used in the middle ages see note 12 on p. 148 of the 4th volume of our *Transactions*.

² William Balard was Sheriff in 1543. His will is dated 12th April, 1554 (Wadley, 192).

fo. 52 verso

[In the same hand.]

Such copis vestmentes & other ornamentes as remayned in the Church of Saynt Stephen/ the
xvth day of Aprell 1550

- A cope of cloth of gold [& tissew *written over in the same hand*] with an [able *struck out*]
albe & iij claspes & hookes of Silver/
A vestment Deakon & Subdeakon/ *with* ij copes. ij stoles/ ij phanelles/ vj peces for the
skirtes of albes ij peces for the Amyses/ v peces for the handes of the albes/. & ij albes for
the ij copes/
A grene cope of cloth of gold/
A vestment *with* deakyn & Subdeaken & a cope all of grene [velvest *struck out*] velvett *with*
laces about *with* [xij *corrected to*] ix peces for albes & phanellas./ J say/ ix peces.
+ A vestment Deacon & Subdeacon [*with struck out*] of white [saten *struck out*] damaske
brodered *with* egles of gold/ & ij white copes Apperteynyng to them of wh[i]te saten of
bridges. brodered *with* egles of gold/ & one old white cope powdred *with* gold/ & ij
phanelles & a stole to the same *with* ix peces for the albis
[A cloth that *struck out*]
+ A vestment *with* Deaken & Subdeaken/ of the passion & resurreccion branched *with* gold/ *with*
vj peces for albes. & ij for the colers & v peces for the handes & one stole/
A vestment of purple velvett blew [brodred *written over, in the same hand*] *with* garters/
A vestment of purple blew *with* a crosse of Crymysyn velvett branched *with* gold/ *with*
Apurtenance to the same/

fo. 53.

- + A vestment of white fustyan sprynckled *with* redd & white spottes.
A vestment changeable silke *with* birdes & a redd crosse
+ A vestment of changeable silke *with* a white crosse & starres/
+ A Vestment of checked canvas *with* a redd crosse
+ A Vestment of grene changeable *with* birdes.
A vestment of changeable silke *with* gold & a crosse of grene brodered *with* gold
A vestment dornyx silke *with* a Redd crosse & ffloore de lucas/
A vestment of blacke wursted/
An old vestment of changeable silke
3 + A vestment of Redde wursted *with* starres/ & more/ xiiij albes././.
Nicholes Keller owth for Certen thinges that was about the shryne which
was delivered him by pregon/ xxiijs. iij*d*
William Balard owth for a gowne of Crymysyn velvett delivered him the
same day by pregon iiij^h. viijs iij*d*
[Nicholes Keller *struck out*, and William Tyndale¹ *written over*] owth for an alter clothe
delivered also by pregon/ ljs
[Paid this ljs in accompt the v of June 1558/ *in different ink, and another hand*]
William Cox² owth for a banner delivered also by pregon iijs. v*d*.
leonard Sumptre owth for a banner vijs. iij*d*
Robert Sternald³ owth for a banner js. iij*d*

¹ His will is dated 13th September, 1558 (Wadley, 190).² His will is dated 8th July, 1581 (Wadley, 232).³ See Wadley, 252.

fo. 53 *verso*.

William Harvest owth for a baner ...	...	...	...	...	...	... vijd
Master kelke ¹ Customer owth for ij banners	...	...	...	...	...	... vjs
leonard Sumpter owth for a stremer	...	...	...	...	...	... vs
William Cox for a pece of Canvas ...	...	...	...	...	...	... viijd
Thomas Clarke owth for [a <i>struck out</i> , ij <i>written over</i>] peces of Canvas						ijs [iiijd <i>struck out</i>]
William Spratt owth for ij peces canvas	...	...	...	...	...	... vjs. viijd.
15 april 1550/						

15 april 1550/

Such Napery as was in the church the same day

one towell of holand of iij yerdes *dimidium* long & yerd brode
 one towell of calicow cloth/ v yerdes a *quarter* long & *dimidium* yerd brode/
 one alter clothe of iij yerdes iij *quarters* & ell brode of diaper
 one towell of calicow cloth of ix yerdes *dimidium* long & iij *quarters* brode *with* Redde selveges
 & wrought at both endes
 one towell of lockeram of iiij yerdes *dimidium* [brode *struck out*] long & *dimidium* yerd brode
 wrought *with* blew thred/
 one towell of dyaper of vj yerdes long & *dimidium* yerd broad
 one towell of dyaper of v yerdes long & one yerd brode one old alter cloth of [iij *written over*]
 yerdes long & a yerd brode.
 one old towell of diaper of iij yerdes *dimidium* long & *dimidium* yerd broad/
 one old towell of diaper of iiij yerdes [*dimidium written over*] & halfe yerd brode
 An old alter cloth of lokram of ij yerdes long
 A towell of dyaper of iiij yerdes *dimidium* long & iij *quarters* broad
 an old alter cloth of ij yerdes long/ Rayed clothe
 an old alter cloth of iij yerdes long/
 an old alter cloth of iij yerdes long/
 vj surplices/ iiij for men & ij for children/
 one alter cloth of v yerdes long dyaper/

fo. 54. An old towell of iij yerdes long/

[illegible][illegible]

more one old alter cloth of dyaper/

more an alter cloth of dyaper of/ iiij yerdes.

more one cloth for the pulpitt & an-other for the alter/

[In a different hand.]

All which Plate copes vestmentes with other Happurtenances with also napery & all thinges afore wryten wer delyuered to John fflemyng & Robert Sternald proctoures of the same church/

per me Thomas Hounson

By me Wylliam spratt

by me william ballard

Per me William Goodwyn

[The rest of the page blank.]

The next document is concerned with the appointment of Thomas Deacon in 1540 as receiver of the rents of Belcheyre's and Blanket's chauntries. He was to receive the sum of

¹ Mayor in 1574.

26s. 8d. annually for his trouble, half of which or one mark being paid by the high proctor or senior churchwarden, and the other half to be allowed out of the chauntry rents.

fo. 51. [*In a different hand.*]

Thomas Dekyn dothe enter in bayle or Resseuer of the renttes of the churche of Seynt stevyns in brystow & of the ij chawntries thatt ys to sey belchars chawntre & blaynkettes chawntre at owre lady day in lentt in the xxxj yere of the Rayne of kynge henry the viij & hys fyrst reseyttes & paymenttes ordenary begynthe at mydsomer next folowyng & he to haue for hys labur xxvjs. viijd. euery yere to be payd a merke a-yere by the hy proctor & a merke to be a-lowyd of the [*churche struck out, and chawntres written over in the same hand*] renttes. & delyuered to the seyd thomas dekyn the xxiiij day of may anno 1540/ by the parson & proctors which was William [*cok struck out*] balonde & william cokes & others of the paryshe there ap-eryng that day ten pownde in money for the which he most be count-abull at all tymys Requyryd by the seyd [*parson written over*] proctors or there successars with the parysheners in wyttnes wher-of J the seyd thomas dekyn do fyrm here vnto my-name

Per me Thomas dekyn.

[*The rest of the page blank.*]

We now come to the inventories of the chauntries of the Church made in 1494, mostly in the handwriting of Richard Vaghan. The other chauntry inventories of later date which have been entered in our MS. on leaves left blank by Mr. Vaghan I have placed in their proper chronological position.

The first chauntry on the list of 1494 is that of Master Thomas White. Thomas le White, parson of Cold Ashton,¹ obtained a licence to aliene in mortmain a messuage and 13s. 4d. of rent in the suburb of Bristol, which he held of the king in free burgage, for founding a chauntry of one chaplain who should celebrate daily in the church of St. Stephen, Bristol, for himself, his mother Isabel, and their souls when dead, and the souls of his father, other ancestors and of his friends. The date of the licence is 12th September, 1346.

In a "rental of the fee of Arthur, and Stake penny" in the *Little Red Book of Bristol*, of the early part of the fourteenth century, the names of John le Whyte and Isabel his wife occur more than once. John le Whyte was a tailor,² and owned a tenement in Tucker Street; it was perhaps part of this property which Thomas le Whyte aliened for the founding of his chauntry. Tucker Street, though now in the midst of the city, was then in the suburbs.

The chauntry, as we learn from the inventory, was founded at the altar of St. Katharine, of which we shall say more when we come to deal with the chauntry of Richard le Whyte.

The ornaments of the chauntry are as follows: a chalice weighing 14½ ounces, and a mass book. Three pair of vestments, with the appurtenances; two of them of blue damask, and the third of coarse cloth of gold imperial. Two corporas cases with three cloths; six altar cloths, probably two sets of three, for the Canon Law required three cloths to be laid on the altar at mass time. Four frontells, or apparels to the linen cloth to hang over the front of the altar to conceal the attachment of the nether-fronts.

For fronts or frontals there are four painted cloths. The two towels may have been for drying the priest's hands at the lavatory. The altar light was set on a candlestick given by

¹ *Calendar of Patent Rolls, 1345-1348*, Record Series, 1903; pp. 168-9.

² *The Little Red Book of Bristol*, edited by Fr. B. Bickley, Bristol & London, 1900; vol. i, pp. 7, 8.

William White: a single light was common at low altars, and was placed on the left or north side of the altar, as John Myrc says:

Look that thy candle of wax it be,
And set it, so that thou it see,
On the left half of thine altar.

Three other miscellaneous items follow: an old chasuble of yellow bawdikin, a leathern cloth with St. Clement painted on it, and another cloth with St. Nicholas painted on it. These two cloths were probably fronts.

fo. 33.

[*In the original hand (1494).*]

Here-aftre ffolowthe the goodes that longe the to the [Chantres *blotted over*] off The church off Seynt Stevyns off Bristowe

Jn-primis yn Mastere Thomas Whitt-is Chantre		
Syre Thomas Wynter beynge encombentte		
Jn-primis a Chalis Weynge xiiij honces and a quartter	...	Summa a-chailes
Jtem more A mas-boke...	...	A mas-boke
Jtem more A peyre off vestmentes off blewe bawdkyne Withe fflowres off		
grenne alle Complitte	...	
Jtem more a Cowrs peyre off blewe bawdkyne withe fflowres off grenne		iiij peyre off vest-
alle Complitte	...	menttes
Jtem more A peyre off vestmenttes off Cowrs clothe off gold emperable		
alle Complitte	...	
Jtem more ij Corporas cas Withe iiij Corporas	...	iiij Corporas with ij
Jtem more vj awntter clothis that Shal-be occupyd att Seynt Katryne-is		cas
awnttyre	...	vj awntter clopes
Jtem more iiij ffrentels good And bade	...	iiij ffrentels
Jtem more iiij peyntted clothis to þe Same awntter	...	iiij peyntted clopes
Jtem more ij tewellis	...	ij Tewellis
Jtem a Candilstyke þat William Whit gaue to þe same awntter	...	A Candylstyke
Jtem more an-old Chesseble off yolowe bawdkyne	...	A chessebille
Jtem more a peynted clope off ledyre off Seynt clement	...	
Jtem more a peyntted clope off Seynte nycholas	...	ij peyntyd clopes

The next inventory is that of "Master Sheppardis Chauntre." John Shipward, who founded this, made his will on 14th December, 1473, and desired to be buried by the high altar in St. Stephen's. He was a merchant of some importance in the town, and had been Mayor in 1445, 1456, 1464, and 1470. In 1471 he got into trouble: Bristol sided with Henry VI when he was restored, and when Edward IV gained the upper hand again he sent a letter¹ to Bristol complaining of the conduct of the inhabitants, but consenting to a general pardon; a few persons, and they men of mark, only excepted. Amongst these was our John Schepherd,² as he is called by Edward. A warrant for his arrest followed,³ dated 5th September, 1471. Apparently he got off with the others.

¹ John Myrc, *Instructions for Parish Priests*, edited by Ed. Peacock, Early English Text Society, 1868; p. 58.

² *The Little Red Book of Bristol*, ij, 130.

³ *Ibid.*, 131.

In his will he directs the founding of a chauntry of two honest chaplains, for the term of twenty-five years immediately following, to sing daily at the high altar of St. Stephen's: after which there was to be only one chaplain.¹ It is further provided that they

singulis futuris temporibus et diebus post meridiem et ante vesperarum decantacionem superpelliceis induti dicent distincte et Aperte exequias cum Psalmis et Commendacionibus mortuorum secundum vsum Sarum ... coram summo altare et in crastino eorundem dierum Missam de Requiem Et quod predictus capellanus durante termino et Annis predictis dicent Missam in honore beatissimi nominis Jhesu quolibet die veneris septimanatim nisi euentus alicuius festi aut alia causa legitima excusatoria interuenerit.²

The inventory shows that the chauntry, though first set up at the high altar, was afterwards moved to St. James' altar.

The chauntry priests whose "Compositions" were enrolled in the *Red Book* had to appear annually before the Mayor and take an oath of fidelity to their duties. John Shipward's Chauntry is not amongst those whose Compositions are entered in the *Little Red Book*, but the general directions are given in the will from which we have just quoted, which is in the *Great Orphan Book*, and his priest is one of those who had to appear before the Mayor. In the *Kalendar* compiled about the year 1480 by Robert Ricart, sometime Town Clerk of Bristol, we read:

It hath been used on the 4th day after Michaelmas, the said new Mayor to let summon all the chauntry priests whose compositions are enrolled in the *Red Book*—that is to say, Everard le Frenshe's priests, Richard Spicer's priest, John Spicer's priest, John Stoke's priest, Walter Frompton's priest, Edmund Blankett's priest, Thomas Halleweye's priest, John Burton's priest, William Canynge's priests, John Shipward's priest, and Thomas Rowley's priest—to come before the Mayor to the Counter, there to take their oaths truly to observe their said compositions; and their said oaths to be made under this form, that is to say, every one of them to lay his left hand on the book and his right hand on his breast, making his oath *per sancta evangelia* and *per verbum sacerdotis*.³

The oath of the chauntry priests is given in the *Little Red Book*: it is of the time of Edward III., and runs as follows:

Jeo fray loyalment la chaunterie pur l'alme N. quele ieo su assignee de faire el eglise de K. et pur le sauf estaat notre seygnur le Rey et la Reyne, la Maire et la communalte de B. et pur les almes de lour progenitours et toutz cristiens. Et serray a les heures canoneles a moun poayr, in verbo sacerdotis.⁴

The inventory of the goods of Shipward's chauntry is short. A mass-book, four pair of vestments, three corporasses, with two cases, and two painted fronts for the altar of St. James, comprise the lot. There is more variety about the colours of the vestments than usual: one of blue velvet, one of red baudkin powdered with golden birds, one of green baudkin, and the fourth of twilly fustian, powdered with drops of red and green. The red baudkin was probably intended for the Jesus mass, and the fustian powdered with red and green drops for Lent.

No chalice appears in this list: and no candlestick.

¹ *Great Orphan Book of Bristol*, preserved at the Council House, fo. ccvj.

² *Ibid.*, fo. ccvj. verso.

³ *The Maire of Bristowe is Kalendar*, Camden Society, 1872; p. 76.

⁴ *The Little Red Book of Bristol*, j, 52.

fo. 39

[In the original 1494 hand.]

Mastyr Sheppard-is Chauntre

Jn-primis A-mas-boke A peyre off vestmenttes off blewe ffelved Jtem more	A mas-boke
A peyre off vestmenttes off Red bawdkynne y-powdyrd with byrdes	iiij peyre off vestmenttes
off gold Jtem more A peyre off grezne bawdkynne Jtem more A	
peyre off vestmenttes off Tewlye ffostyann y-powdyrd withe droppe3	
off Red and grezne	
Jtem more iiij Corporas withe ij Cas	iiij Corporas with ij Cas
Jtem ij peynttyd clopes longyng to Seynt Jamys-is awtter	ij peynttyd awtter clopes

[In a different hand.]

Memorandum that the xxth day of Septembur at [blank]

[The rest of the page blank.]

From this to fo. 41 inclusive the pages are blank. Then on fo. 42 is the inventory of the goods of Thomas Belcheyre's chauntry. Thomas Belecher and Christina his wife obtained a licence¹ on 20th October, 1329, to aliene in mortmain three messuages in Bristol, for founding a chauntry of one chaplain at St. Stephen's, Bristol, to celebrate daily for their souls, those of their ancestors, and others. On 28th May, 1339, an exemplification of the letters patent granting the licence above mentioned was made out.²

The ornaments and goods of the chauntry in 1494 comprised a little mass-book, with two clasps of silver; a silver-gilt chalice weighing 23 ozs.; four pair of vestments, a chasuble, and a painted altar cloth. The altar at which the chauntry was founded is not mentioned. It would have been interesting to know what masses were said by the priest of Belcheyre's chauntry: the colours of the vestments are two red, one violet, one white, and there is a black silk chasuble besides.

fo. 42.

Thomas Belcheyre[-is Chantre *blotted over*]

Jn-primis A lyttyle mas-Boke with ij Classpys of Sylvyre	a mas-Boke
Jtem more a chalys Sylvyre alle gyld weying xxij honces	a chales
Jtem more a peyre off vestmenttes off Red Bawdkyn complette	ij peyre off vestmenttes
Jtem more a peyre off vestmenttes off Red Sylke worne	ij peyre off vestmenttes
Jtem more [a peyre off vestmenttes <i>written over</i>] off vyolett Sylke Complette	
Jtem more A peyre off whitt Bawdkynne with-owt an-awbe	a chessepylle
Jtem more a Chessepylle off blake Sylke y-powdryd wythe lyllys off gold	a peyntted awtter clope
Jtem more a peynttyd awttyr clothe with a Crowcyfyxe	

The rest of this page is blank: nor are the succeeding pages written on until fo. 46.

The Composition of Edmund Blanket's chauntry is one of those entered in the *Little Red Book*, fo. 88 *verso*, and is printed in full by Mr. Bickley³ in his edition. The royal licence was

¹ *Calendar of Patent Rolls, 1327-1330*, Record Series, 1891; p. 452.

² *Calendar of Patent Rolls, 1338-1340*, Record Series, 1898; p. 253.

³ *The Little Red Book of Bristol*, edit. B. Bickley, i, 221 sq.

obtained 18th February, 1370. The properties aliened in mortmain are set out at length in the Composition: they consist in gardens, shops, and messuages. The property was conveyed to Master John Wyke, rector of St. Stephen's, Richard Hoker and John Hore then churchwardens, and to their successors for ever, to find a chaplain to celebrate daily for ever in a certain oratory within the chapel of Blessed Mary the Virgin in the church of St. Stephen, where the body of Edmund Blanket lies buried, for the souls of the foresaid Edmund Blanket and Alice his wife, of Thomas Blanket, of Richard Blanket and Alice his wife, of Henry Vyell, and for the good estate of Margaret wife of the foresaid Edmund, of the Mayor and Commonalty of the town of Bristol, and for the souls of all the faithful departed. It was to be known for ever as Edmund Blanket's chauntry. The presentation was in the gift of the Mayor, and the rector of St. Stephen's, for the time being. His obit was to be kept on the Vigil of the Assumption: on which occasion alms and doles and hearse lights were to be found by the rector and wardens. These also had to provide a mass-book, chalice, bread, wine, ornaments and all other things needful for celebrating mass. The Composition makes further regulations for the conduct of the chaplain: amongst other things he had to take oath before the Mayor for the time being that he did not receive annuals, so long as he held this benefice. By annuals, I presume, is meant singing mass for some one else for the term of a year, instead of (or in addition to, if he could do it without being found out) singing only for those for whom the Blanket Chauntry was founded: a mode of increasing the income to which the clergy were somewhat addicted in the later middle ages.

Two inventories of the goods of Blanket's chauntry appear in our MS. The earlier, that of 1494, on fo. 46; and a later one, inserted on a leaf left blank by Richard Vaghan, on fo. 34 *verso*.

In 1494 the chauntry possessed a mass-book, a chalice, and two cruets; four pair of vestments, two corporasses with two cases; a pair of candlesticks; four altar cloths of twill; two nether fronts, two over fronts, and three frontals; two curtains or riddels, with two iron rods to hang them upon. In February, 1527 the list was much shorter: two mass-books, a chalice, five corporasses with cases, three pair of vestments, a sheet, two towels, an old painted cloth, and two "altar cloths."

One cannot be sure that the mass-book of 1494 was the same as one of those in 1528: and the absence of the weight of the chalice similarly prevents the possibility of identification. The vestments of 1494 were: a pair of blue velvet branched with flowers of gold, given by Elizabeth Bayly; a pair of red silk, powdered with green and white flowers; a pair of blue baudkin, powdered with beasts; and a pair of coarse green baudkin, powdered with spots of red. Not one of these appears in 1528: the first being of changeable silk, the second of the same fabric, with a white cross and ostrich feathers, and the third of red baudkin, with a white cross. The old painted cloth may have been one of the stained fronts of 1494: but whether the two altar cloths were fronts or linen cloths it is impossible to say.

The great difference between the two inventories may perhaps be explained by the fact that by the Composition the rector and churchwardens had to provide the ornaments, etc., for the chauntry: and that they simply let the chauntry priest have such old stuff as was getting too shabby for use at the public services of the church.

fo. 46.

[In the original 1494 hand.]

Edmund Blankette-is [Chauntre blotted over]

Jn-primis a-mas-Boke with ij classpys off Sylvyre	A mas-Boke
Jtem more a-chalys off Sylvyre parceller gyld weynge xiiij honces 3e	A Chalys
quartter	ij Crewettes
Jtem ij Crewettes off Sylvyre weynge ix honces 3e	
Jtem more a peyre off blewe vestmenttes off ffelved Complytte y-braynychd with fflowrres off gold the whiche Elysebeth bayly gave to the churche off Seyntt Stevyns	J peyre off vestmenttes
Jtem more A peyre off Red vestmenttes off Red Sylke powdryd with grenne & whitt fflowrres Complitte	
Jtem more A peyre off blewe bawdkyne Complitte y-powdryd withe bestes off gold	ij peyre of vestmenttes
Jtem more A peyre off Cowrs grenne Bawdkyne y-powdryd withe Spottes off Red Complitte... ..	
Jtem more ij Corporas with ij Cas on off clope of gold & pe toper off Red bawdkyne powdryd with grenne & whit fflowres	ij Corporas with ij Cas
Jtem more a peyre off Candylskyckes off latten	
Jtem more iiij Awttre clopes off Tewlly	A peyre off Candylstykes
Jtem more ij Steyned awttyr clopes	iiij awtyr clopes
Jtem more ij Steyned clopes to hange Aboue pe awttyr	
Jtem more ij old ffrontyls	ij ffrentylls
Jtem more ij Corttenis off Steynyd clope	ij Corttens
Jtem more ij jryns to hang pe Corttenis Apone	ij jryns

[Blank to fo. 47 verso inclusive.]

fo. 34 verso

[In a different hand: 23 February 1527.]

Jhesus

Here-after folowythe the parselles thatt syre [Jh struck out] John Colle [chauntre blotted over] pryst off edmonde blankettes chanthe with-jn the [chauntre struck out] parryshe chyrche off sentte steuyns hathe Reserved off thomas dekan & jerame grene proctors off pe seyd chyrche [pe struck out] on pe xxiiij day off february anno 1527

- Jtem Jn primis a mase-boke with a Clapse off syluer
 Jtem anothe[r] mase-boke with a Clapse off Coper gylte
 Jtem a chalys weynge [blank]
 Jtem v Corporas with Casys
 Jtem a pere off vestymentes [off struck out] complett off chanceabell sylke
 Jtem a pere off vestymentes chanceabell [complett written over] with a whytt Cros & ostrege-ys fethers
 Jtem a pere off vestymentes [Complett written over] off rede bawdekyn with a whyt Crose
 Jtem a shett & ij tewelles & an olde peyntyd Clothe
 Jtem ij awter Clothys

[The rest blank to fo. 38 verso inclusive.]

On fo. 48 we have an inventory of the goods of Richard White's Chauntry, made in 1494: a later inventory, made in 1527, has been inserted on fo. 32 verso of the MS., which is now printed in its proper place.

Richard le White, of Bristol, obtained a licence¹ to aliene certain property in mortmain on 20th September, 1334, for the foundation of a chauntry of two chaplains to celebrate daily at St. Stephen's church for his good estate during his life-time, and for his soul after death, and for the souls of his father and mother. The Composition of his chauntry is enrolled in the *Little Red Book*²: but his priest is not mentioned amongst those who took the annual oath before the Mayor.

The chauntry was founded at the altar of St. Katharine in the chapel which Richard le White had caused to be built in the church of St. Stephen, and the presentation to the benefice was placed in the hands of the Prior and chaplain-brethren of the Kalendars. On the death of one of Richard le White's chaplains the Mayor was to present the benefice to a chaplain elected by the Prior and chaplain-brethren, and the diocesan was to admit him to it. The beneficiaries of the chauntry are stated in the composition to be, the souls of Richard le White, of his father and mother, of John de Vises, also the good estate of the Mayor and Commonalty of Bristol, the souls of the brethren and sisters of the fraternity of Kalendars, and the souls of all the faithful departed.

In 1494 the goods of this chauntry were a mass-book with two silver clasps, a gilt chalice, four corporasses with two cases, three pair of vestments, and an old chasuble. In 1527 we have a longer list. A mass-book, a chalice, four vestments, and an old chasuble, three altar cloths, three fringes, three fronts, two corporasses and one case, and a St. John's Head.³

The mass-book was probably, and the chalice possibly, the same in 1527 as in 1494. The old chasuble of white fustian may also be identified in both lists. But it is hardly possible to identify the vestments: the white silk pair of 1494 does not appear at all in 1527; and there is nothing to show whether the blue silk and green baudkin pair of 1494 are included in the two blue and two green pair of 1527.

fo. 48.

[In the original 1494 hand.]

Richard Whitt[is Chantre *blotted over*]

Jn-primis A-mas-Boke with ij Classpys off Sylvyre	A-mas-Boke
Jtem more a-chalys alle gyld weyng xiiij honces 3e	A-chalys
Jtem more iiij Corporas withe ij Cas	iiij Corporas with
Jtem more A peyre off vestmenttes off blewe Sylke y-powdryd with whitt	ij Cas
& Red Complitte	iiij peyre off vest-
Jtem more a peyre off grenne Bawdkynne Complette	menttes
Jtem A peyre off vestmenttes of whit Sylke with-owt an-awbe ...	an-old Chesseple
Jtem more an-old Chessepylle off whitt ffostryan	

[The rest of the page, and the verso blank.]

fo. 32 verso.

[In a different hand from the foregoing. 1527.]

Here-After folowythe Suche *parcelles* that *sir* John Cortlege Chauntre pryste of Rychard White-
is chauntre *with-in* the pareshe church of saynt Stephans. haue Received of hew norrys
And thomas deacon beyng church-wardens. Anno domini Mⁱ v^c xxvij.

¹ *Calendar of Patent Rolls, 1334-1338*, Record Series, 1895; p. 11.

² *The Little Red Book of Bristol*, edit. Bickley, i, pp. 186 sq.

³ On "St. John's Head," see Mr. St. John Hope's paper, "On the sculptured alabaster tablets called Saint John's Heads," *Archaeologia*, vol. lii, pp. 619-708.

In primis A masse-booke with ij claspys of syluer
 Jtem j chales with j crucifyxe & .v. Jhesus graven on the fote & A lambe on the paten
 Jtem a blew vestymment with a grene & Redde crosse & al-thing per-to
 Jtem a vestymment of grenne with a Redde crosse & starres per-vpon . & al-thinge perteynyng
 there-to/ save a gyrdell
 Jtem an other vestymment of grene & all thyng ther-to save A gyrdell
 Jtem A vestymment of blewe with flowres of white & al-thinge per-to save A gyrdell
 Jtem An olde cheseble of white fustyan
 Jtem iij alter clothis
 Jtem A fronge of Redde velvet with starrys of golde
 Jtem A fronge of white Damaske
 Jtem A fronge of cheker warke & nelde warke of sylke
 Jtem A fronte of Redde & blewe saten of cypresse
 Jtem An Alter fronte of lether with An Jmage of seynte clement
 Jtem an olde alter ffront peyntyd
 Jtem ij corporasys with on case
 Jtem A seynte Johannis hedde

[The rest of the page blank.]

The chauntry of Elizabeth Bayly was founded at our Lady altar. She gave a pair of vestments of blue velvet to the church, which were allocated in 1494 to Edmund Blanket's chauntry. The John Bailly who gave a single pair of blue velvet vestments to our Lady altar mentioned in the additions (c. 1496) to the church inventory of 1494 may have been a relation: but I have not been able to find out who she was, nor when she lived.

The goods of the chauntry were a mass-book, a chalice, two pair of vestments, one of green baudkin and the other of red baudkin, and two corporasses with two cases.

fo. 49.

[In a hand similar to that of 1494.]

Certteyne ordementtes that is delyveryd to syr Robert walkare to be occupyd at oure lady awtter synggyng ffor Elyzabeth the baylly.

In primis A mas-Boke with ij classpys off syluer & gyld	}	A mas-boke
Jtem more a chalys alle gyld weyng xx honces 3e the whiche chalys Elyzabeth the baylly Gave to be occupyd at the same awttre ...		A chalys
Jtem more A peyre off vestmenttes off grenne bawdkyne y-powdryd with mally lions off clope off gold complitte	}	ij peyre off vestmenttes
Jtem more a Cowrs peyre off vestmenttes off Red Bawkyne Complitte		ij Corporas
Jtem more ij Corporas with ij Cas		ij Cas

[The rest of the page, and the verso, blank.]

Gyllam, or William de la Founte, was a merchant who inhabited a tenement on the quay,¹ belonging to John Shipward, in 1473. His will is dated 12th February, 1493. It mentions his wife Alice, his second wife Elizabeth, two sons Edmund and John, and four daughters, Joan, Anne, Joan the younger, and Elizabeth.² He left a legacy to St. Stephen's church, and one

¹ T. P. Wadley, *Notes or Abstracts of the wills contained in the volume entitled "The Great Orphan Book and Book of Wills,"* Bristol, 1886; p. 160.

² *Ibid.*, 170.]

to St. Clement's chapel. This latter was in the parish of St. Stephen in the Marsh, on the site now occupied by the Merchants' Hall, King Street. There is nothing said of his chauntry at St. Stephen's in his will. According to the inventory below this was founded at the altar of the Holy Trinity. The goods of the chauntry are few: two mass-books, a chalice weighing $13\frac{1}{4}$ oz., a corporas with a case of blue damask, and two pair of vestments, one of red silk, and the other of black worsted, worn.

fo. 50.

[In the same hand as fo. 49.]

Certteyne ordementtes þat is delyuered vn-to Syr John Donne Gyllam de-la-ffowntte-is Chapleyne Syngynge at trenty Awttire/

Jn-primis ij mas-Bokes...	...	...	...	...	...	...	ij mas-bokes.
Jtem more a chales weyng xij honces & quarter	...	...	...	...	...	...	A chalis
Jtem more a Corporas with a-cas off blewe damaske...	...	...	...	...	...	...	ij peyre of vestmenttes
Jtem more a peyre off vestmenttes off Red Sylke	..	...	...	...	...	...	A Corporas with
Jtem more a peyre off vestmenttes off blake worsted wornne	...	...	...	...	...	...	a-cas

[The rest of the page, and the verso, blank.]

The mediaeval records of St. Stephen's are very scanty: so far as I know the churchwardens' accounts have all disappeared, and the present MS., together with some regulations of the Vestry¹ made in 1524, form the total of what remains. It is said that there are some deeds in the custody of the Vestry: but I have not seen them.

In the *Great Orphan Book* there is a large number of wills which have been abstracted with great accuracy by the late Rev. T. P. Wadley. In these is some incidental information about St. Stephen's.

In 1382 John Bord left a legacy to the Fraternity of the Nativity of Blessed Mary at St. Stephen's Church.²

Thomas Chapeleyn³ left 6s. 8d. to the rector of St. Stephen's if the four torches used on the day of his burial might serve at the four altars of the church in honour of the elevation of the Body of Christ. His will was made in 1388.

The Lady Chapel at St. Stephen's is mentioned several times. John Wyke, in 1393, wished to be buried there⁴: and so did Richard Paans⁵ in 1406. Thirty years later John Leycester⁶ desired to be buried in the same chapel under the image of St. George. Robert Didbrok, in 1409, wished to be buried before the high altar of St. Stephen's, and bequeathed a vestment to the Lady Altar.⁷

Simon Canynges in 1413 wished to be buried in St. Stephen's, in the chapel of St. Katharine, before the image of St. Mary.⁸ Thomas Roger⁹ desired to be buried before St. Katharine's altar in 1465; and his son William in 1471 requested to be laid beside his father.¹⁰

¹ Printed in the *Proceedings of the Clifton Antiquarian Club*, 1888; vol. i, pp. 198 sq. In the time of Thomas Harson, rector.

² T. P. Wadley, *Notes or Abstracts of the wills contained in the volume entitled "The Great Orphan Book and Book of Wills,"* Bristol, 1886; p. 14.

³ *Ibid.*, 21-2.

⁷ *Ibid.*, 91.

⁴ *Ibid.*, 42.

⁸ *Ibid.*, 90.

⁵ *Ibid.*, 153.

⁹ *Ibid.*, 140.

⁶ *Ibid.*, 128.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, 148.

Walter Tedistille¹ in 1385 left £20 to St. Stephen's to buy a pair of vestments with complete appurtenances. John Viell² left the proctors or churchwardens a ring containing a stone from the pillar to which our Lord was bound, to be laid up with the relics in that church for ever, in 1398. Joan Ryngston,³ widow of Philip Ryngston, left to St. Stephen's in 1509, "a standing cupp of siluer ouer gilt with a couer of the same weyeng xxiiij vnces."

The altars in the church numbered four in 1388, as shown by Thomas Chapeleyn's will.⁴ By the end of the next century there were five at least. From the preceding inventories we can gather that there was: (1) the high altar; (2) the altar of our Lady; (3) of the Holy Trinity; (4) of St. James; and (5) the chapel and altar of St. Katharine. And in 1509 Joan Ryngston⁵ arranged for a chaplain to sing for her, for the space of two years, "at the aulter of Seynt John baptist," in the church of St. Stephen. Blanket's chauntry was founded at a certain oratory within the Lady Chapel; but the dedication of the altar therein is not given.

In view of the small documentary remains relating to St. Stephen's, it seems worth while printing these inventories, which throw a certain amount of light on the past history of the church.

¹ T. P. Wadley, *Notes or Abstracts of the Wills contained in the volume entitled "The Great Orphan Book and Book of Wills,"* Bristol, 1886, p. 13.

² *Ibid.*, 57.

³ *Ibid.*, 175.

⁴ *Ibid.*, 22.

⁵ *Ibid.*, 175.